



European Research Council (ERC) Calls

Aslı VURAL

Derya DÖNERTAŞ, PhD

ERC National Contact Point

10 February 2020
The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey
TÜBİTAK

Horizon 2020 - Pillars



Excellent Science (24.4 B)

17 %

European Research Council (13.1 B €)

Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions (6.1 B €)

Future and Emerging Technologies (2.7 B €)

> Research Infrastructure (2.5 B €)

Industrial Leadership (17 B €)

> LEIT = Leadership in enabling and industrial technologies

- ICT
- · Nano, new materials
- Biotechnology
- Space

Access to Risk Finance

(2.9 B €)

Innovation in SMEs (0.6 B €) Societal Challenges (29.7 B €)

Health (7.5 B €)

Food

(3.9 B €) Energy

(6 B €)

Transport

(6.3 B €) Climate

(3B €)

Inclusive Societies

(1.3B €)

Security

(1.7B €)

Spreading Excellence (0.8 B€)

Science with and for Society (0.5 B€)

EIT (2.7 B€)

JRC (1.9 B€)

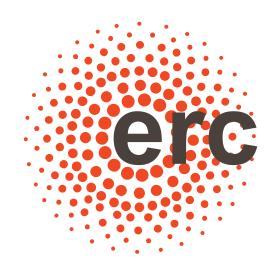
EURATOM (1.6 B€)

Objectives and Principles of ERC



An autonomous pan-European funding body set up by the EU in 2007 led by scientists to encourage the highest quality research in Europe through competitive funding of frontier projects

ERC encourages proposals of a multi- or interdisciplinary nature which cross the boundaries between different fields of research, pioneering proposals addressing new and emerging fields of research or proposals introducing unconventional, innovative approaches and scientific inventions.



Objectives and Principles of ERC



any nationality

high risk / high gain

any field of research

portable

best settings to foster creativity

Scientific Excellence

a single Principal Investigator

(except SyG)

a single host institution

(except SyG)

Up to 100% of the total eligible direct costs of research

Why would I apply to the ERC?



ERC offers you

- the possibility to work on a research topic of own choice, with a team of own choice
- true financial autonomy for 5 years.
- the means to negotiate with the host institution for the best conditions.
- The ability to attract best team members, best collaborations as a quality label.

After 13 Years, a Success Story



- 17% of the overall Horizon 2020 budget, i.e € 13.1 billion
- The total annual ERC budget for 2020 is just over €2.2 billion
- Since 2007, more than 9,500 projects have been selected for funding
- ERC grantees have won prestigious prizes, including 7 Nobel Prizes, 4 Fields Medals, 5
 Wolf Prize and more
- Over 150,000 articles published in scientific journals, including over 5,500 articles in the 1% most cited scientific journals. In 2014, Europe surpassed the US for the first time in this respect, and ERC grantees contributed to this
- Each ERC grantee employs on average six team members, thus contributing to train a
 new generation of excellent researchers. Currently over 70,000 postdocs, PhD
 students and other staff working in their research teams.
- More than 70-80% of projects assessed by an independent study made scientific breakthroughs or major advances, whilst about 25% of them made contributions that are incremental

ERC Funding Schemes



Starting

2-7 years after PhD

Max € 2.5 M (€ 1.5 M + € 1M) Max 5 Years

Consolidator

7-12 years after PhD

Max € 3 M (€ 2 M + € 1M) Max 5 Years

Advanced

significant research achievements in the last 10 years

Max € 3.5 M (€ 2.5 M + € 1M) Max 5 Years

Synergy

2 - 4 researchers

Max € 14 M (€ 10 M + € 4M) Max 6 Years

Proof of Concept

bridging gap between research - earliest stage of marketable innovation up to €150,000 for up to 18 months for ERC grant holders

Calculation of Eligibility Window







| | Starting Grant | Consolidator Grant | Advanced or Synergy Grant |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Specific Eligibility Criteria | Principal Investigator has been awarded his/her first PhD >2 and ≤ 7 years prior to 1 Jan 2020 | Principal Investigator has been awarded his/her first PhD >7 and ≤ 12 years prior to 1 Jan 2020 | - |
| | From 1st Jan 2013 to 31st Dec 2017 | From 1st Jan 2008 to 31st Dec 2012 | |

Extention of the eligibility time window



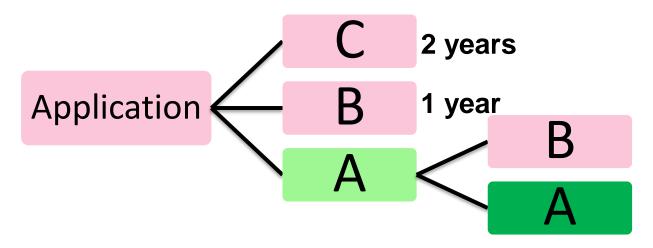


For career breaks and unconventinal careers

- **Maternity** (extention by 18 months for each child born before or after PhD)
- **Paternity**
- Long-term illness (over 90 days for the PI or a close family member (child, spouse etc.)
- **Clinical training or national service**

ERC - Application - StG CoG AdG





Time related considerations for your application:

- 1. PhD year
- 2. The nature of the project
- 3. Your CV and Track Record
- 4. Is your project high risk/high gain? Frontier research?

Forthcoming ERC calls



| ERC Call | Publication | Deadline | Possible GA signature |
|--------------|-------------|------------|-----------------------|
| ERC-2020-StG | 17/07/2019 | 16/10/2019 | 05/12/2020 |
| ERC-2020-SyG | 18/07/2019 | 5/11/2019 | 19/04/2021 |
| ERC-2020-CoG | 24/10/2019 | 4/02/2020 | 03/04/2021 |
| ERC-2020-AdG | 14/05/2020 | 26/08/2020 | 21/08/2021 |

| ERC Call | How many projects are expected to be funded |
|----------|---------------------------------------------|
| StG | 455 |
| CoG | 343 |
| AdG | 209 |
| SyG | 39 |

76% of the projects allocated to young researchers (StG & CoG)

Update on 2021 Calls

- 2021 calender will change due to transition to Horizon Europe
- First 2021 calls will be launched only in January 2021
- SyG is not expected to be lauched in 2021 but will be lauched in 2022

Panels – StG, CoG, AdG





25
evaluation panels per call



> 2,700

panel members in 2014-2017 calls



- Panel members: typically 375 / call (SyG:~90)
 - High-level scientists
 - Recruited by ScC from all over the world: ~14% from outside Europe
 - About 12-16 members plus a chair person
- Remote Referees: typically 2000 / call
 - Evaluate only a small number of proposals
 - Similar to normal practise in peer-reviewed journals

Panels - StG, CoG, AdG





Physical Sciences & Engineering

PE1 Mathematics

PE2 Fundamental Constituents of Matter

PE3 Condensed Matter Physics

PE4 Physical and Analytical **Chemical Sciences**

PE5 Synthetic Chemistry and Materials

PE6 Computer Science and Informatics

PE7 Systems and Communication Engineering

PE8 Products and Processes Engineering

PE9 Universe Sciences

PE10 Earth System Science

Life Sciences

LS1 Molecular Biology, Biochemistry, Structural Biology and Molecular Biophysics

LS2 Genetics, 'Omics', **Bioinformatics and Systems** Biology

LS3 Cellular and Developmental Biology

LS4 Physiology, Pathophysiology and Endocrinology

LS5 Neurosciences and Neural Disorders

LS6 Immunity and Infection

LS7 Applied Medical Technologies, Diagnostics, Therapies and Public Health

LS8 Ecology, Evolution and **Environmental Biology**

LS9 Applied Life Sciences, Biotechnology and Molecular and **Biosystems Engineering**

Social Sciences & Humanities

SH1 Individuals. Markets and **Organisations**

SH2 Institutions, Values, **Environment and Space**

SH3 The Social World, Diversity, **Population**

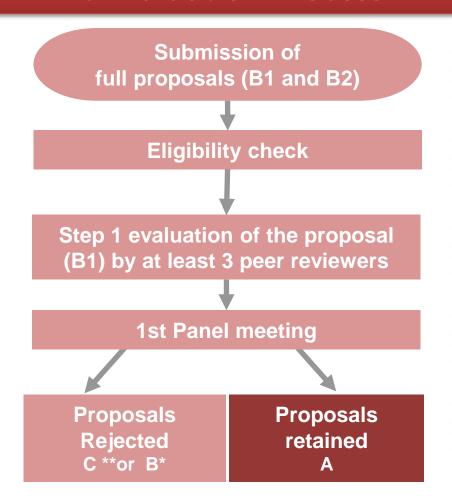
SH4 The Human Mind and Its Complexity

SH5 Cultures and Cultural Production

SH6 The Study of the Human Past

ERC Evaluation Process





Individual assessment of full proposal (B1 and B2) by panel members & referees StG and CoG: AdG: **2nd Panel** 2nd Panel meeting + meeting Interview **Proposals** selected for funding

What is ERC? Evaluation criteria



Evaluation of quality at two levels:

- Quality of the Research Project
 - Ground-breaking nature
 - Potential impact
 - Scientific Approach
- Quality of the Principal Investigator
 - Intellectual capacity
 - Creativity
 - Commitment

Application CV





Administrative forms (Part A)

- 1 General information
- 2 Administrative data of participating organisations
- 3 Budget- resurces section
- 4 Ethics
- 5 Call specific questions

Part B1 (submitted as pdf)

Evaluated in Step 1 & Step 2

Text box - Cross-panel explanation

a – Extended synopsis
 b – Curriculum vitae
 c – Track-record
 pages
 pages

Appendix – Funding ID no page limit

<u>Annexes</u>

HI Statement of Support PhD Certificate (for StG and CoG) Documentation for requests for eligibility extensions Documentation for ethical issues

Part B2 (submitted as pdf)

Only evaluated in Step 2

Scientific proposal 15 pages

a – State-of-the-art and objectives

b – Methodology

c - Resources (part A)

Abstract / B1 / B2

Source: ERCEA



Proposal – B2







Typical reasons for rejection



Source: ERCEA

Research Project

- <u>Scope</u>: Too narrow ←→ too broad/unfocussed
- Incremental research
- Collaborative project, <u>several PIs</u>
- Work plan not detailed enough/unclear
- Insufficient <u>risk</u> management

Principle Investigator (PI)

- Insufficient <u>track-record</u>
- Insufficient (potential for) independence

Before Redressing: see what you could you have done/explained/ presented better before blaming the process!

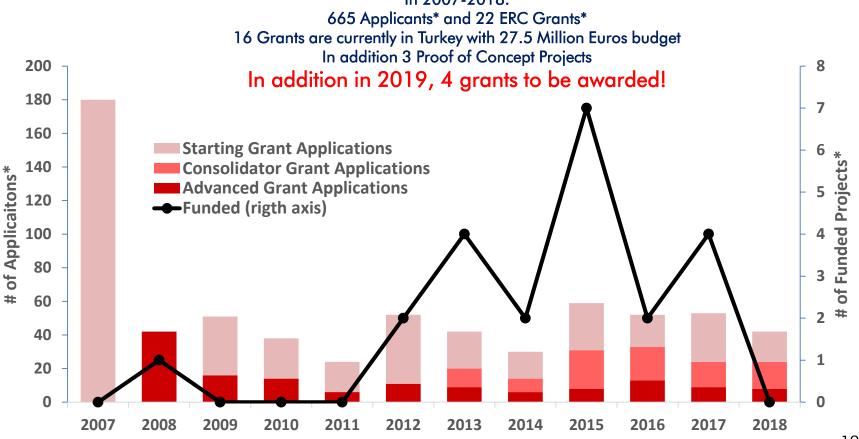
- Differing scientific opinion is <u>not a</u> <u>motivation for redress</u>
- An obvious mistake however might result in a re-evaluation

Turkey's Performance in ERC





*At the time of the application



Host Institutions in Turkey



| Host institutions in Turkey* | | | | |
|----------------------------------|--------------------|------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| Host institution | Starting Grants | Consolidator Grants | Advanced Grants | Total |
| Koc University | 6 | 1 | 1 | 8 |
| Bilkent University | 3 | 2 | - | 5 |
| Middle East Technical University | - | 2 | - | 2 |
| Istanbul Bilgi University | - | - | 1 | 1 |

Number of ERC grantees in Turkish Host institutions with ERC Proof of Concept funding: 3

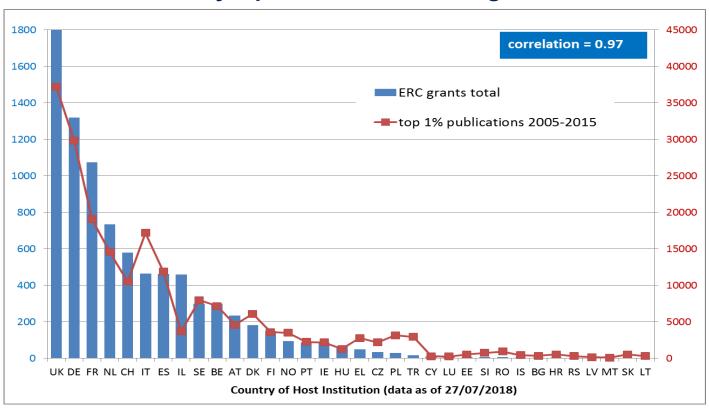
*current Host Institutions

ERC Funded Projects and Correlation With Publications





Turkey's potential in ERC Programme

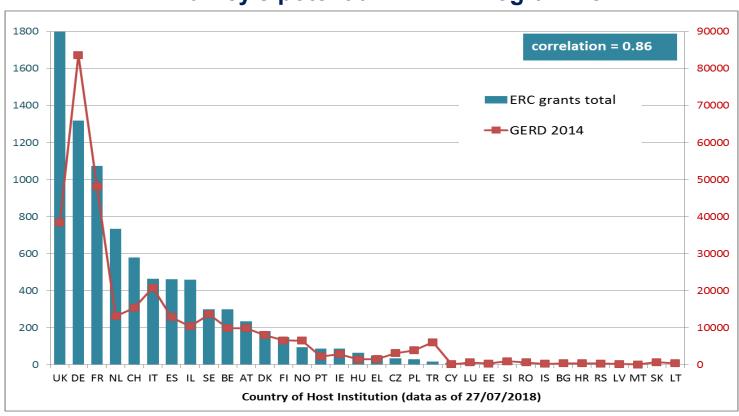


ERC Funded Projects and Correlation With GERD



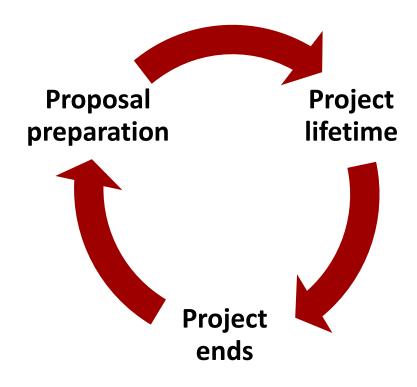


Turkey's potential in ERC Programme



TÜBİTAK supports





Support from your NCP





During the proposal preparation stage:

Bridge between you and ERC

Guidance in proposal writing

Information on Host Institutions in Turkey

Pre-evaluation support of your proposal





3 EBAG Supports







Evaluation

Positive



Max: 3000 Avro

Project Pre-Evaluation

Max: 7500 Avro

Interview **Training**

Max: 2500 Avro

Proposal Preparation

Unfunded but highly scored proposals

Funded ERC projects

TÜBİTAK Supports You



ERC Above the threshold award

| Score in the second evaluation step | Award |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|
| В | 40,000 TL |
| A | 50,000 TL |
| Reserve | 60,000 TL |

BIDEB 2247 – B Programme

- To improve your ERC application
- You need to re-submit your proposal to ERC in 2 years

| Score in the second evaluation step | Maximum Budget |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------|
| В | 500,000 TL |
| A | 1,000,000 TL |

TÜBİTAK ERC Success Awards



| Grant Type | Success Award |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| StG | 90.000 TL + (Project Budget (TL) x % 60) |
| CoG | 120.000 TL + (Project Budget (TL) x % 60) |
| AdG | 150.000 TL + (Project Budget (TL) x % 60) |
| SyG | 150.000 TL + (Project Budget (TL) x % 60) |
| PoC | 30.000 TL + (Project Budget (TL) x % 60) |

In addition:

Transfer Award: max 500.000 TL

TÜBİTAK Support and Award Programme



Team



Damla OR CEYHAN ERC EBAG Programme damla.or@tubitak.gov.tr



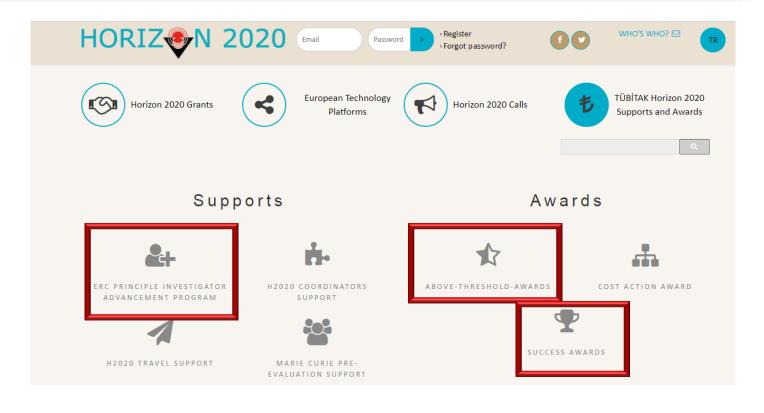
Fatma DURAN ERC Award Programmes fatma.duran@tubitak.gov.tr

For Applications: http://destekler.h2020.org.tr/

For Information: https://ufuk2020.org.tr/en/supports-and-awards

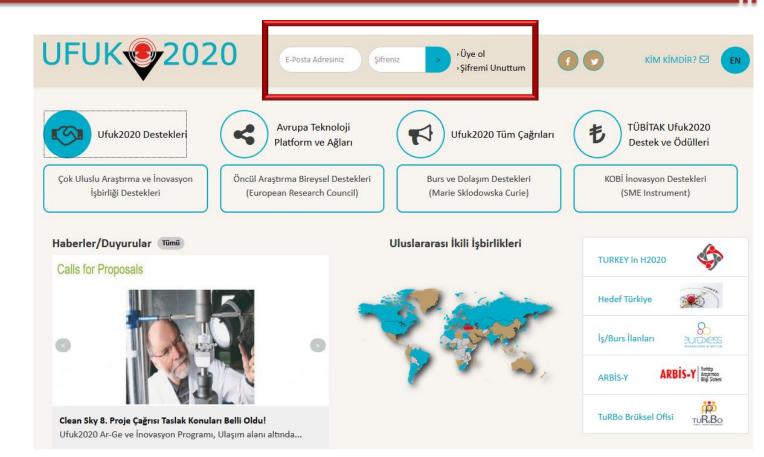
www.ufuk2020.org.tr/en





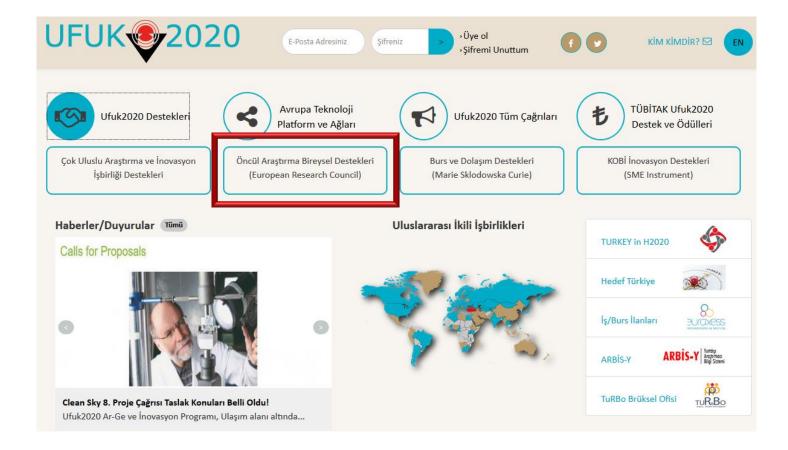
www.ufuk2020.org.tr





www.ufuk2020.org.tr





www.ufuk2020.org.tr











WHO'S WHO? ☑







European Technology Platforms





TÜBİTAK Horizon 2020 Supports and Awards

European Research Council Funds





You are invited to the ERC Information Day in Ankara on 18 June 2019

Success Stories All



erc E.Nur Firat KARALAR Koc University Starting Grant 2015

Project : CentSatRegFunc Budget : 1.5 Million Euro Duration : 2016-2021

Dissecting the structure and function of centriolar satellites: Key regulators of the centrosome/cilium

National Contact Points







ERC Starting Grant ERC Consolidator Grant

ERC Advanced Grant

ERC Synergy Grant

ERC Proof of Concept

ERC and You ERC and Turkey



European Research Council (ERC) was established at 2007 during FP7 to fund European frontier research. The only criteria for ERC funding is scientific excellence and all decisions are made by scientists for scientists.

- . ERC funds one Principal Investigator leading a team of researchers (no need for partners)
- · ERC funds any field of research (Life Sciences, Physical Sciences and Engineering, Social Sciences and Humanities)
- . ERC funds ground breaking, high risk-high gain projects that normally cannot be funded by national funding agencies
- . The host institution, where the principal investigator will do his/her research, must be established in an EU Member State or Associated Country like Turkey
- . The principal Investigator should spend a minimum of 50% of their total working time in an EU Member State or

Application





https://erc.europa.eu/



SUPPORTING TOP RESEARCHERS FROM ANYWHERE IN THE WORLD



NEWS > MORE

26-03-2018 ERC achievements in 2017: Annual Report 06-03-2018

Two ERC grantees win the prestigious Brain Prize

OPEN CALLS

Proof of Concept | ERC-2018-PoC

Information for applicants
Instruction guide for using html5

Timeframe ongoing evaluations

FAQs

Deadline: 18 Apr 2018 | 11 Sept 2018

The official deadlines are only those indicated on the Participant Portal

EVENTS

16-04-2018 to 19-04-2018

Transport Research Arena 2018

For a successful proposal...



Funded projects in your research area



Compare your idea with the funded projects

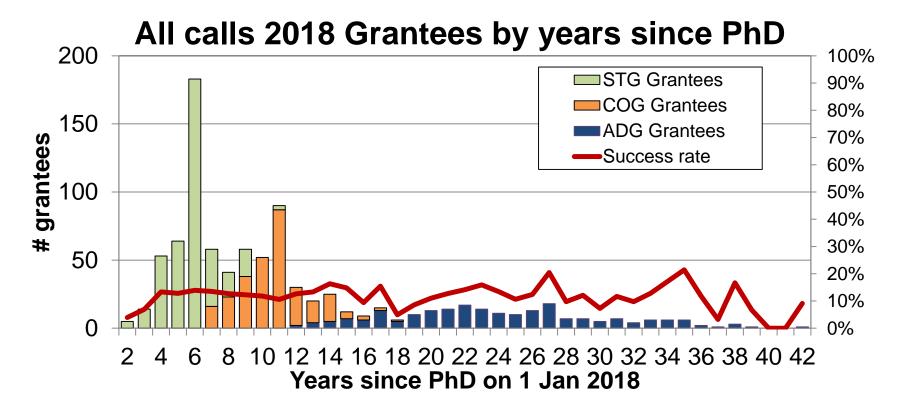
Compare yourself with the PIs who are funded by ERC

Apply and re-apply to ERC

2018 Calls "Academic age" of grantees

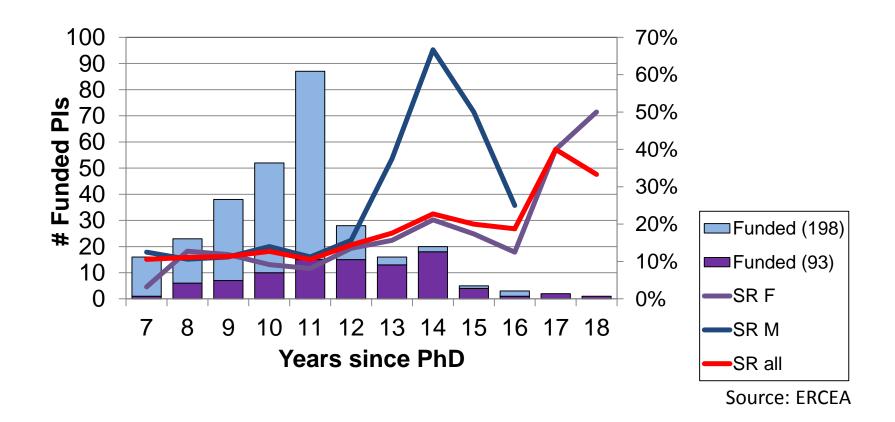






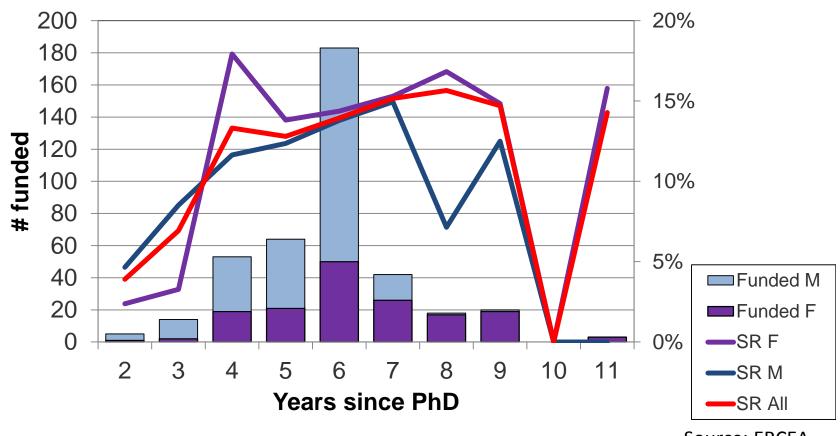
CoG 2018 Funded proposals by gender and years since PhD





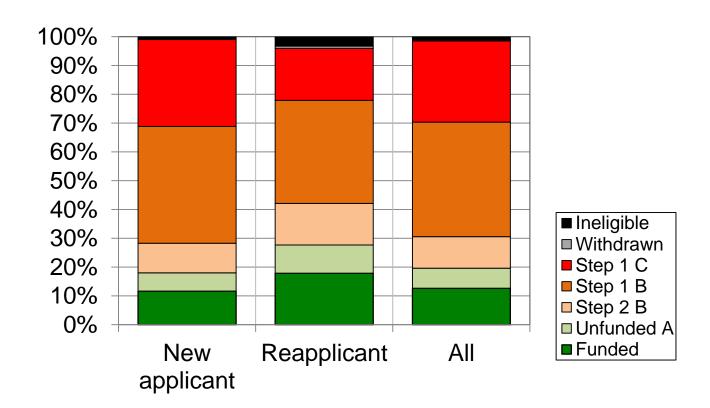
StG 2018 Funded proposals by gender and years since PhD





StG 2018 New and re-applicants results

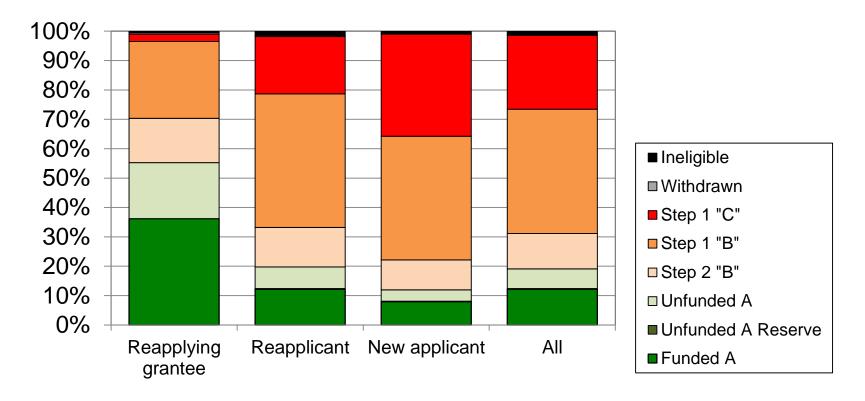




CoG 2018 New and re-applicants results



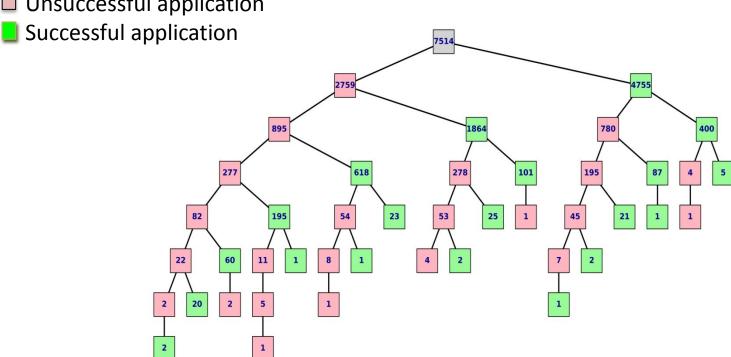




ERC grantees 2007-2017 Applications before and after funding



Unsuccessful application



Tips – General



- Support from your NCPs
- Support from TÜBİTAK EBAG
- Support from your colleagues
 - ❖ Turkish ERC Grant Holders
 - Trusted colleagues
 - **❖** Non-active panel members



Thank You



Aslı VURAL Derya DÖNERTAŞ, PhD

ERC National Contact Point

TÜBİTAK

T: +90 312 298 1763 - 1761

E: ncperc@tubitak.gov.tr





